Restoration Coordination: 1998 Focused Grants and Designated Actions



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Memorandum

Date:

February 19, 1998

To:

CALFED Policy Group

From:

Lester A. Snow

Executive Director

Subject: 1998 Focused Grants and Designated Actions

Summary

To date, 71 proposals have been selected totaling \$84.7 million. \$57 million remains of the four funding sources. The Integration Panel has recommended 24 focused grants and designated actions and one additional proposal from the 1997 round. The range of funding recommended was from \$51.6 million to \$56.1 million. The designated actions and focused grants were developed to address gaps and additional needs remaining. The Ecosystem Roundtable and the Management Team have provided several recommendations which staff are incorporating into the text and the proposed allocation of funds. A revised matrix will be available at the Policy Group meeting.

Action - Decision

The Policy Group is being asked to recommend approval of the topics for the designated actions and focused grants as well as the allocation of funding amongst the topics with the caveat that the water acquisition funding would not be allocated until such time as the Roundtable members could reach a consensus that was acceptable to the Policy Group. These topics and the allocation of funding will be incorporated into the federal spending plan for the FY 98 appropriations.

At future meetings, the Policy Group will be asked to approve the request for proposals to solicit proposals on each topic and to approve the individual proposals recommended for selection as a result of that process.

CALFED Agencies

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Detailed Discussion

To date, 71 projects have been selected. These projects are summarized in the two following tables, based on CALFED's tentative division of the projects approved in January between funding sources.

Table 1. Funding Sources and Amount Allocated to Date

Funding Source	Funds Available	Number of Projects	Funds Allocated (Thousands)
Category III Funds from Proposition 204	\$60 million	38	\$28,543
FY 98 Federal Funds	\$85 million	19	\$47,279
1997/8 CUWA Category III Funds	\$10 million	. 9	\$7,565
EPA Category III Watershed Funds	\$2 million	5	\$1,768
Total	\$157 million	71	\$85,155

Table 2. Allocations by Budget Category

Budget Category	Number of Projects	Category III from Prop 204 (Thousands)	FY 98 Federal Funding (Thousands)	EPA Category III Watershed Funding (Thousands)	FY 97/98 CUWA Category III Funding (Thousands)
Fish Screen Improvement	13	\$7,481	\$1,639	\$0	\$2,173
Fish Passage Improvements	2	\$0	\$325	\$0	\$238
Habitat Restoration in Floodplains and Marshes	12	\$12,684	\$12,142	\$0	\$5,154
River Channel Changes	21	\$19,859	\$9,855	\$0	\$0

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Improved Instream Flows	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Quality and Temperature Improvements	11	\$6,450	\$3,255	\$599	\$0
Introduced and Undesirable Species Control	1	\$223	\$0	\$0	\$0
Improved Fish Management and Hatchery Operations	3	\$582	\$625	\$0	\$0
Watershed Management	8	\$0	\$703	\$1,169	\$0
Total	71	\$47,279	\$28,543	\$1,768	\$7,565

These projects fall into the following project types:

•	Implementation	80.6%
•	Planning	8.1%
•	Research	6.0%
•	Monitoring	4.5%
•	Education	0.7%

Once these projects were selected, the Integration Panel reviewed their spending to date and determined what gaps remained and what additional restoration needs they felt should be addressed in this round. This resulted in the development of the recommendations in the attached matrix which has the focused grants, designated actions, and one proposal recommended by the Integration Panel. The comments of the Ecosystem Roundtable and the Management Team have been included in the matrix. Staff will be working to incorporate these comments as well as the following concerns and recommendations discussed at the Management Team:

Concerns:

- Too much research funding.
- Effects of floodplain acquisition on agriculture.
- Small screen alternatives evaluation may not be needed.
- Water acquisition and its affect on ag.
- Introduced species efforts need to be focused on implementation of measures to prevent introductions.

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Proposed modifications:

- Selectively reduce funding in several Research categories so that the overall package continues to reflect at least 80% implementation.
- Modify language on Floodplain Acquisition to address concerns about effects of acquisition on ag but maintain ability to meet habitat needs.
- Add funding to Fish Passage and expand it to include fish screens.
- Add funding to Floodplain Acquisition and expand it to allow funding for habitat restoration on lands already in conservation ownership.
- Allow stakeholders to continue to debate water acquisition and revisit in March.
- Allow Wayne White, Ryan Broddrick, Roger Patterson, and Bob Potter to review matrix adjustments to ensure staff have addressed their concerns.
- Check on possibility of not identifying dollar amounts for each line item on the matrix to determine if that meets Interior needs for a spending plan.

Staff will be working to revise the matrix to reflect these changes. The revised matrix will be presented to the Policy Group for their consideration.

Attachment